

Why We Fight

No. 2

Because Germany's Law is the Law of the Jungle and Her Doctrine "Might Is Right"

By CLARENCE L. SPEED

Prepared Especially for the Hermitage Club of Nashville.

We are at war with Germany because Prussia dominates Germany, and from the days of Frederick the Great, Prussia's law has been the law of the jungle, her doctrine "Might is Right" and her policy, in dealing with other nations, one of robbing the weak and terrorizing the strong. Germany has grabbed territory and exacted tribute from her neighbors, and finally, her greed becoming greater, has looked out over more distant lands, and has committed herself to a policy of world domination which menaces the continued free existence of every nation which will not submit to her will.

Germany's policy is not an accidental one. It has been carried out with remarkable singleness of purpose from generation to generation of Hohenzollern rule, from the time of the Great Frederick until today. Germany's atrocities are not accidental. They are a deliberate, well thought out part of this Hohenzollern policy, which was to break down the resistance of her opponents, not only by fighting and defeating their armies but by killing, torturing and terrorizing the civil populations.

The German rulers committed themselves to the doctrine of the survival of the fittest. Through generations of teaching they made the German people believe that they, and they alone, were the fit.

We have the words of the German rulers and German warriors and German leaders of thought for all of this. More than that we have the performance of German officers and German armies in conquered lands to prove it. Let's start with Frederick the Great in presenting the evidence. This monarch, who earned his sobriquet through despoiling his neighbors, rather than through any real qualities of mind which he showed, said, in a letter to his minister, Radziwill:

"If there is anything to be gained by it, we will be honest; if deception is necessary, let us be cheats. One takes what one can, and one is wrong only when obliged to give back."

This philosophy, applied to present conditions, means that Germany was right when she took Belgium, and will be wrong only if she is not able to hold it.

From Frederick the Great to Bismarck is a long jump in the matter of time; but we find the Prussian policy unchanged. Speaking before the military committee of the Prussian Chamber of Deputies in 1862 Bismarck said:

"Not by speeches and resolutions of majorities are the great questions of the time decided, but by iron and blood."

Then, with blood and iron, Prussia went out and despoiled Denmark of territory in 1864, bent and robbed Austria in 1866, and finally, in 1870, brought France to her knees and took her richest provinces.

Here is what the present kaiser told his troops when, in 1900, they were about to depart for China to put down the boxer uprising:

"Use your weapons in such a way that for a thousand years no Chinese shall dare to look upon a German as a coward. Be as terrible as Attila's Huns."

Coming on down to the present war we find a German minister accredited to a neutral state far across the sea—one which one would think should be free from the entanglements of world politics—writing home to his government, in a state paper, advising the sinking of two ships from this neutral nation, in such a manner that no trace be left. Dead men, he believed, tell no tales.

It was Baron Luxburg, minister plenipotentiary to Argentina, who wrote this amazing dispatch on May 19, 1917:

"I beg that the small steamers Oran and Guazo . . . which are nearing Bordeaux . . . be spared if possible, or else sunk without a trace being left."

This telegram was intercepted in the United States and published. It sent a thrill of horror around the world.

Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg is a true disciple of Frederick the Great, Bismarck and his royal master. In a public speech on January 31, 1917, he said:

"When the most ruthless methods are calculated to lead us to victory, swift victory, they must be employed."

So they were used, and are being used today. They include sinking of hundreds of neutral ships, the burning of cities, the deliberate devastating of the fair lands of France, the ravishing of women, the enslavement of workmen and the murder of little children.

Horrors such as these are told in detail in "The Prussian System," by F. O. Walcott, who, for a long time, was engaged in behalf of America in trying to get food to the Poles whom the Germans were deliberately starving by the hundreds of thousands so that they might not cumber the land which the Germans intended to occupy.

Knowing all this, can the American people talk of any peace by negotiation? Can they stop this war until this mad dog of nations is freed from the military rulers who teach frightfulness from the cradle, and will only seize a respite now to prepare themselves for further conquests?

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WORKMEN SEEK ONLY JUSTICE

Charge That Unions Are Engaged in Profiteering Is Manifestly Unfair.

FIGURES REVEAL THE FACTS

Increases in Wage Scales Have No More Than Kept Pace With Advanced Cost of Living—Statistics From Bureau of Labor.

By WILLIAM L. CHENERY.

An impression that the unions are not unwilling to profiteer is current. It is charged that organized workers are trying to get more than they are justly due. They also, it is sometimes alleged, are taking advantage of the nation's emergency.

A fairly definite answer to this suspicion has been made by the bureau of labor statistics. The facts are brought up to May 15, 1916, and while they are not precisely contemporaneous, they are fresh as figures go. For if statistics were peddled as eggs they would ever bear the cold-storage label. But the facts, garnered by the government do not seem to dispel any illusion concerning profiteering among workmen. Their wages have not kept up with the cost of living.

Wages and Prices.

Organized labor received higher wages in 1916 than in any year preceding. "In all trades taken collectively the increase in weekly wage rates in 1916 over 1915 was 4 per cent, over 1914 4 per cent, over 1910 11 per cent, and over 1907 16 per cent. While wage rates have been increasing there has been a slight decrease in working time."

The gain was considerable but not so marked as the advance in the cost of living. In May, 1916, 94 cents bought only as much food as 70 cents purchased in 1907. Food, fuel and the other essentials of life showed the same movement. In general the government authorities found that, measuring by wholesale prices, 76 cents in 1907 would buy as much as 96 cents in May, 1916. Since then of course the rise has been enormous. By March of this year \$1.30 was needed to buy what 76 cents would have paid for ten years previous. And December is vastly higher than March.

Industrial Unrest.

Emphatically wages have not kept up with the prices. The same thing is true in Great Britain. So strikingly obvious is it there that the first of Lloyd-George's recent commissions on industrial unrest mentioned food prices as the primary cause of uneasiness in Great Britain.

"SUB" TRAPPED BY WARSHIP

Submarine Which Sunk American Tanker Is Captured, According to Naval Officers.

An Atlantic Port, June 5.—Hovering for two days over the sea where the American tanker William Rockefeller had been sunk by a German submarine, a flotilla of destroyers and two seaplanes finally succeeded in capturing the U-boat, according to naval officers, survivors of the disaster, who landed here. The sea for miles about the spot where the fatal blow struck the tanker was closely watched by destroyers and their accompanying seaplanes for any sign of the U-boat speeding from the scene of its encounter. No trace of the submersible evidently was seen, for the boats stayed in the neighborhood and waited for the U-boat to make its appearance. At last the submarine, which had stayed below the surface so long that its air tanks had become exhausted, rose to the surface and was netted.

Smuggle Jewels of Romanoff Dynasty.

New York.—An alleged plot to smuggle into America the crown jewels of the dethroned Romanoff dynasty, stones valued at \$2,000,000, is believed to have been discovered by United States customs officials, it was learned. Two United States Government officials are under suspicion, it was announced. Two passengers on the vessel Vladimir Jorgensen and Montefier G. Kahn, were arraigned before a United States Commissioner in Hoboken, N. J., for alleged complicity and were held in \$10,000 bail each for examination.

Ingenuous Optical Device.

An ingenious optician in Marseille, France, has invented a cane fitted with lenses and mirrors in such a manner that a user can see over the heads of a crowd in front of him.

KNOXVILLE LODGE, No. 138, I. O. O. F.

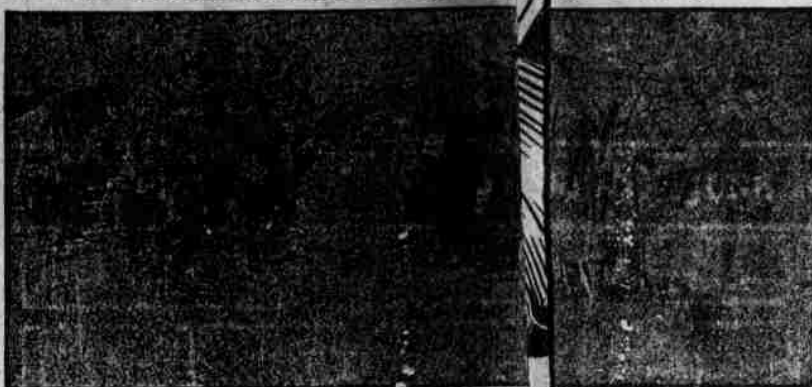
Officers Elected for the Ensuing Term

At a regular meeting of Knoxville Lodge, No. 138, I. O. O. F., held in the Rose Building, Thursday night, June 6, 1918, the following officers were elected for the ensuing term of six months:

Curtis Loy, Noble Grand
Chas. D. Green, Vice Grand
Geo. W. Ford, Secretary
R. W. Pierce, Treasurer

The officers will be installed the first meeting night in July. Knoxville Lodge was instituted Oct. 29, 1869, and meets every Thursday night in the Rose Building 310 Commerce Ave.

THE ENEMIES' FIRE DOES NOT STOP THE "Y"



French General with Prince Arthur of Connaught and other Canadian officers on Vimy Ridge. On the left can be seen a Y. M. C. A. Coffee Stall, where coffee is served free to the men going to or coming from the trenches. The Y. M. C. A. follows the Land and does not halt on account of the fire.

KING BASE BALL YIELDS TO VOLLEY BALL IN CAMP

Popularity Of Volley Ball Among Soldiers Surprises All Old Baseball Fans.

What are the favorite games with the soldiers in training camps in the southeastern division? The immediate response would naturally be baseball. However, this is not correct, according to the latest statistical report compiled by R. C. Cubbon, Army Y. M. C. A. physical director for the southeastern division, aided by the 126 physical directors in the camps. Their figures of the number of games played and the number of men participating show that volley ball is the most popular of all sports.

There was a time when baseball was the most popular sport in the camps, and in the month of March it was three times as popular as any other game, but in the following month the newly introduced game of volley ball was taken by the soldiers with the greatest of enthusiasm and the report of the physical directors in the camps of the southeastern department show that, commencing with the month of April, volley ball has easily held first place as the most popular sport with the soldiers.

This is very easily understood when it is explained that volley ball can be played in a very small space about the size of a tennis court. The soldiers with little practice can become quite expert in the game. Another feature is that all of the players on both sides are playing the entire time, (no bench warming) and the games do not last nearly so long as baseball, in fact not much longer than the average baseball inning. The only equipment needed for this game is one ball and one net.

Playground baseball is another game that is making a great hit with the soldiers and now ranks fourth in popularity. This game also can be played in a small space, the distance between bases being only thirty feet. In this game a large, soft ball is used and the pitcher is required to use the underhand throw. All the skill of the parent game of baseball is required for playground ball and the playing has all the thrills and tense moments that is to be had in the national pastime.

As an entertainer boxing is very much in the limelight in the camps and like baseball has an immense following of devotees. Providing games of entertainment is of no small importance in the camps as it is shown in the physical director's report that 905,375 spectators were in attendance at 143,348 games in which 682,056 soldiers participated in Y. M. C. A. games.

Y. M. C. A. WORKERS ON ARMY TRANSPORTS

Y. M. C. A. Secretaries Now Accompany Troops From Home To The Camp And From Camp All The Way To The Boche Trenches

Y. M. C. A. secretaries have carried their work to the troops in transport, says an announcement just received from the National War Council of the Y. M. C. A., and are now promoting a systematic recreational, educational, social and religious program for the soldier boys en route by sea to France. With the sanction of the War Department each transport now carries one or two such secretaries whose function it is to do all that is possible to make the voyage both comfortable and enjoyable for the fighting men abroad.

"Games are provided, musical and movie entertainments staged, magazines and books are supplied and writing paper is issued free to the men," the statement continues. "A report of a transport worker recently arrived shows that in his equipment there were such articles as a folding organ and song books, motion-picture equipment with 30 reels, pocket testaments, writing paper, boxing gloves, medicine ball, rope quoits, checkers, dominoes, Victrola and records and a Sonora machine.

"The appointment of transport secretaries completes the link of Y. M. C. A. work, which begins with the recruits in camp, continues through the training period, comes overseas on the transports and goes on in the camps in France all the way from the ports to the front line trenches. Transport secretaries are assigned to ships, and remain on their ships as does the crew."

THE TRIANGLE IS KEEPING ITS PROMISES

Y. M. C. A. Secretaries Follow The Soldiers Out Into No Man's Land

No Job Too Small For The Biggest Of Men

The American Y. M. C. A. is keeping its promises. American secretaries are now, and have been for many weeks, at work in the forward areas along the battle front in France. To an indeterminate number of Red Triangle men "over there" gas and shell-fire and mud and actual battle are a grim reality—a part of the day's work.

A personal letter of absorbing interest was lately received from Mr. Ralph Harrison, president of the Pittsburgh Y. M. C. A. and a well known business man of that city, who has been in France on a special Y. M. C. A. Mission.

The Letter

"Casualties had occurred among our soldiers just before we arrived at our village," the letter reads, "and we were ordered to get under cover of our de suite. After a supper of chocolate, war bread, and canned beef, the six of us secretaries were ordered to the cellar of the 'Y,' together with fifty soldiers who happened to be in the old shell-torn building, as the boche were beginning again to shell the town. We took candles, a big basketful of canteen supplies, to last us in case we should have to be dug out later, overcoats and blankets. We fitted our gas masks on to be sure they were working well, and then settled down—or tried to—in the dungeon. We expected to have to stay all night, but in an hour a sentry called, 'All out,' and up we gladly went. The rest of the evening we spent up stairs in one of the reasonably whole rooms, with piano and songs and stories and the ever-present and wonderful canteen, at which I took my turn."

"Needless to say, I slept none that night, with all the bang and noise outside, but nobody does, I'm told, the first night. The night before I got about two hours of lozing with a stiff neck, sitting up in a crowded night train, but, strange to say, I never felt the lack of it for a minute."

"We were up the next morning at one o'clock, and after breakfast at the officers' mess Clarke and I started off for the trenches, each of us laden with about fifty pounds of canteen supplies besides our helmet, gas masks, carried at all times at 'alerte,' etc."

"For two hours we pursued a tortuous way among the various lines of trenches and connecting trenches, stopping frequently to dispense our popular wares among the boys, some repairing the trenches, some building new ones, some on sentry duty, some sleeping in the dugouts, some manning guns and watching for German heads."

"As we entered the front-line trenches, we suddenly ran into Secretary Baker and accompanying officers. I stepped aside as well as I could, saluted and said, Good morning, Mr. Secretary. As they passed I heard one of the officers say to the Secretary, 'You see, Mr. Secretary, the "Y" men are right up in the front-line trenches with the boys.'"

"Time was flying, and we knew there were still more soldiers further on who would be glad to see us. Soon we entered 'No Man's Land' by means of a trench, a land which we had seen from the rear lines in the distance an hour earlier, all uprooted and torn and desolate, and after some minutes we crawled, hot and winded, into a shell hole—the furthestmost listening-post in our lines—and found six soldiers on guard, all very much alert. They gave us a warm welcome, and we conducted our communications in low whispers, for there were three German snipers in three different directions only seventy-five feet away."

"Needless to say, our gunnysacks were empty when we came out. We hurried back to the sign of the Red Triangle in the village, drank a cup of hot chocolate, and started in again in another direction."

"We watched the explosives getting closer and closer, each one preceded by the wildest kind of a wall and whine through the air, and then during a let-up we rushed across the open and into the dugouts in an embankment, where our second pack of supplies disappeared."

"Two of the secretaries had been gassed the day before we arrived at this place, and one slightly wounded by shrapnel, while others were breaking under the physical strain and needed relief. I'm sure we will hear of fatalities soon, but since my experience in the trenches I don't ask the question any more. 'Is it worth while?' Never was such an opportunity given to man to serve his fellow-men as this."

"Pass the word on, and pass it quickly, that five hundred of the most capable, earnest, and big-souled Christian men are needed here today in addition to the weekly stream that is coming. We are cabling New York frequently but they don't come. It is critical, and we must not fail, but we will unless more and better men come immediately. As I see it, there is no Y. M. C. A. job over here too small for the biggest men in America."

A THRIFTY PERSON

There is not a fortune nor a successful business anywhere that did not have its beginning with a thrifty person

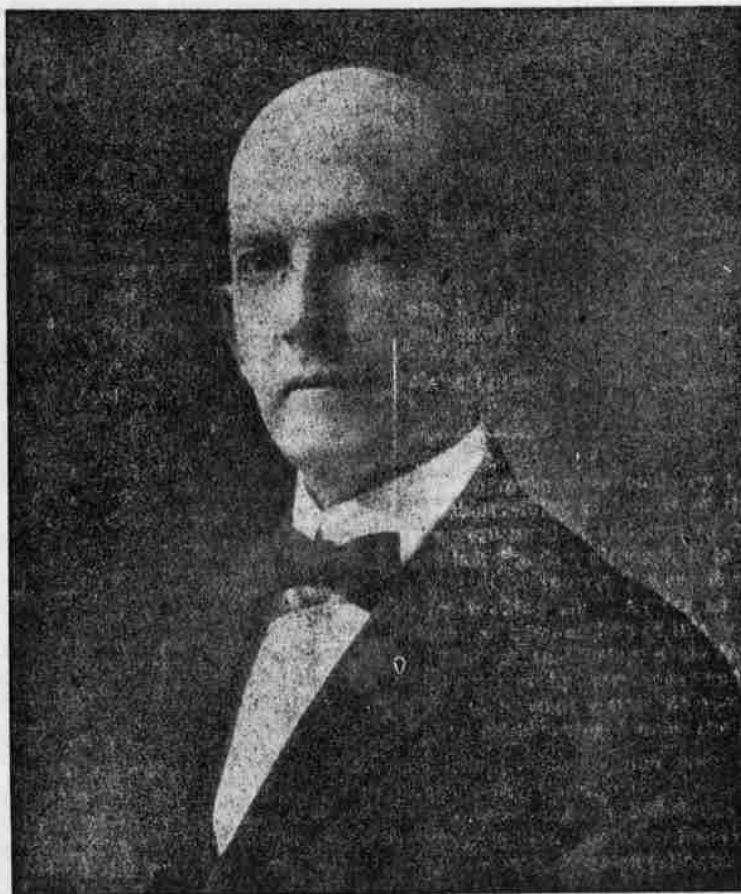
Someone, sometime, somehow, began to save—to save regularly the nickels and dimes, the quarters and half dollars, until it reached the hundreds of dollars, and the fortune was made. The secret of such success is that the start was made, and was kept right on-saving with a system

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TAYLORS CAMPAIGN SMACKS OF THE UTMOST DEMAGOGUERY AND VERY, VERY MUCH OF THE NATURE OF DISLOYALTY
Austin Worked For and voted For Government Improvements of Public Highways Before, and Ever Since He Has Been In Congress

SHAM PRETENSES FOR CONGRESSIONAL HONORS.

The campaign being made by J. Will Taylor for the Republican nomination for Congress at the August primaries smacks of the utmost of demagoguery. In point of fact, it might be properly stated that it smacks very, very much of the nature of disloyalty. In going about over the district Mr. Taylor has taken occasion to whisper in the ear of the voter who may feel a little sore because a boy has been sent to the army under the selective service law, that Mr. Austin voted for this law much against the wishes of his constituents; that the army should have been filled up by enlistments, that no man should have been forced to go to the war against his wishes.

It is not the purpose of this newspaper at this time to go into a discussion of the merits, or demerits if it has any, of the selective service law. This writer heard Mr. Austin state in Knoxville, when one of his supporters stated to him that he had made up his mind at first that he would oppose his re-nomination because he had voted for this law, that he voted for it because it was his duty to so vote and that he would have voted for it if he had known at the time that it would cost him his seat in Congress. He had a duty to perform and he had performed it according to the dictates of his conscience and had nothing to fear as to the result of his action in that matter.

That is something different from the attitude of his opponent for the nomination this year. What would Mr. Taylor have done under the circumstances? Would he have voted with the I. W. W. and the anarchist crowd? He holds out the impression by his manner of campaign that he would have so voted.

Again Mr. Taylor is making a point on the proposition that he is in favor of the government taking over the improvement of the highways of the country and lending the states aid in their work. There is nothing new in Mr. Taylor's advocacy of this measure. The writer has before him the report of the joint commission of both houses of Congress appointed for the purpose of considering the advisability of the government undertaking the improvement of the highways of the country. Mr. Austin was one of the members of this joint commission. The commission made a very long and full report covering over 300 pages, on the question, and as a result the government is now appropriating \$25,000,000 yearly to assist the states in the construction of highways.

We have before us also the copy of a speech made by Mr. Austin before Congress on this question. It is too lengthy to publish in full at this time, but a paragraph very per-

sonal to the question is quoted, that Mr. Austin's view of the proposition may be understood to the extent which the paragraph covers. It is as follows:

"This is not a contest between the city and country; this is a great national question involving the developments and up-building of the entire country. We could not possibly have the city prosperous without the country being prosperous, and, on the other hand, we could not build up the country districts without the city receiving the benefit from it. We have an immense empire extending from ocean to ocean—3,000,000 square miles, with an average population of 30 to the square mile. The great burden of providing national highways, for cheap transportation, for building up our country, for making rural life more agreeable and more attractive, is too stupendous a financial burden upon the States and local communities to carry forward without the assistance of the National Government. If Congress could give millions of valuable acres of land out of the public domain for the construction of railroads and thus aid in building up the western country, I think we have reached the point where Congress can appropriate money out of the Public Treasury to still further the development of our country and the prosperity of the rural states of the Union."

These sentiments were given expression to on January 24, 1916. Mr. Austin writes that he has not changed his attitude since the government set about the work of assisting the states and local communities of the construction of their highways.

If Mr. Taylor has anything on Mr. Austin on the only issue which he raised in his announcement, except the issue that he was mightily impressed with himself and his face which is reflected in his photo, we have not learned of it.

Would it not be as well for Mr. Taylor to abandon his course of underhanded criticism of the loyal services which Mr. Austin has been performing and give the people of the district to understand that he is loyal himself. A man whose loyalty is of such a hue as to impel him to criticize the loyal acts of another, (and be it said Mr. Austin's acts in Congress in relation to the conduct of the war have never been criticized) is not so deeply set as to place him outside the realm of criticism himself.

Mr. Taylor may be getting himself in deep water by attempting the manner of campaign which he has set out on.—Harriman Record